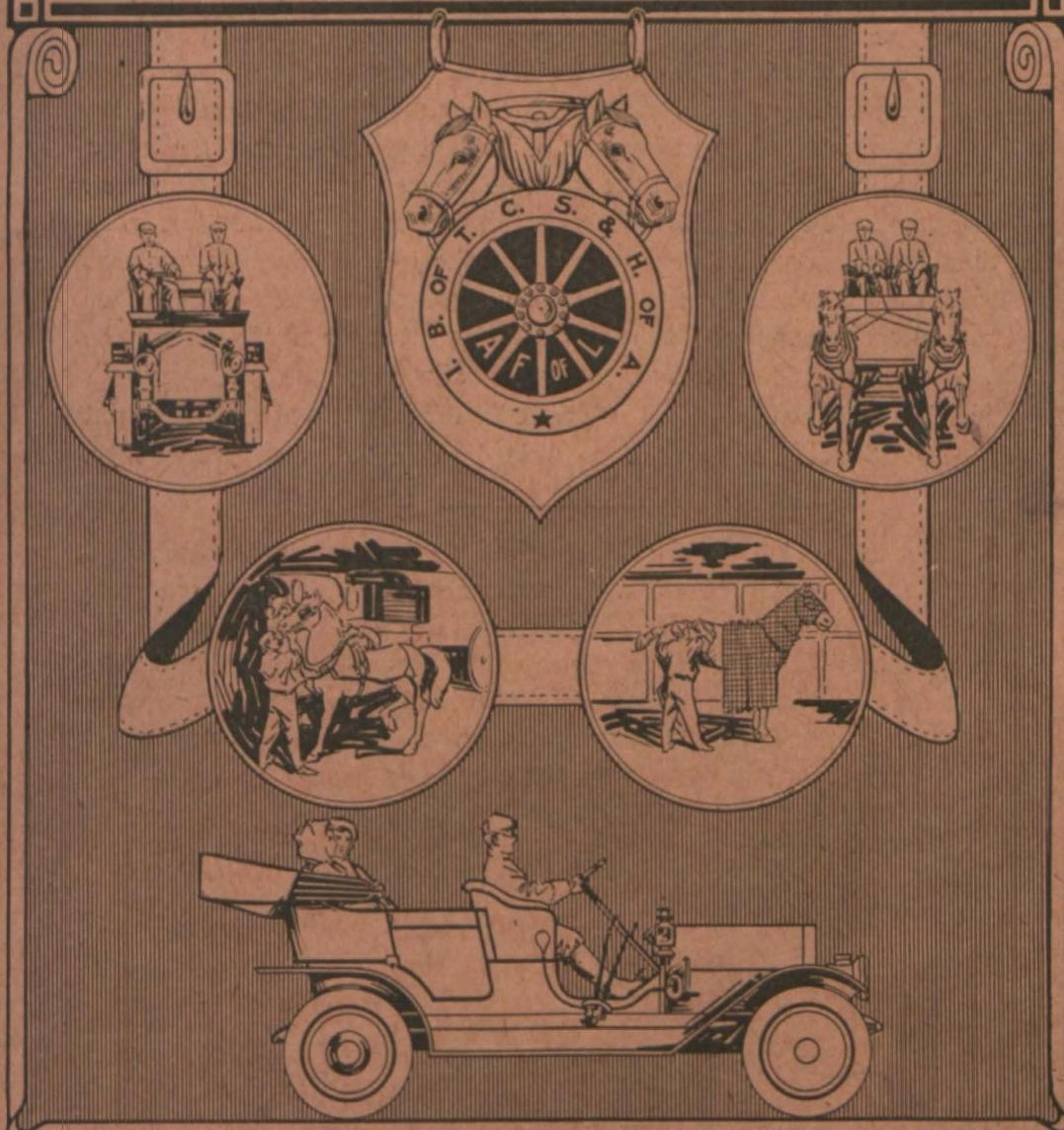


OCTOBER, 1917

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
TEAMSTERS · CHAUFFEURS  
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS  
OF AMERICA



From the report received from Brother Casey of San Francisco the teamsters' unions in that district are prosperous and happy. Conditions are improving continually. Slowly but surely is our membership going ahead. At this writing the street car men are out on strike in San Francisco, and, as in all cases where the street car men go on strike the teamsters are the backbone for the street car men's union, contributing their money and assisting them in other ways in the streets of San Francisco to win their strike. Whatever we may say of other districts—and we have the greatest pride in all of our membership—we must take our hats off to the San Francisco teamsters and chauffeurs when they get into a fight, whether for themselves or for some one else. They are slow to act, it is true, and they are not mixing up in unnecessary battles, but when they do act everyone knows they are on the job. Perhaps in our next issue we will be able to tell you that the street car men of San Francisco have either driven the street car corporation out of the city by forcing the city government to take over the street railways or that the street car men have completely won their strike by the efforts and assistance put forth by the several locals of our International Union in that vicinity.

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Get this into your head first, last and all the time, that when a man ceases to work at our craft he must take out a withdrawal card. We like you. We almost reverence you for what you have done, but the law of the International says you are not a teamster, chauffeur, stableman or helper and you must comply with the law by taking out a card. Once again let me ask that you do not force us, who have been your best friends, to order you out. Be good enough to go up and ask your secretary-treasurer for a withdrawal card.

— OFFICIAL MAGAZINE —  
**INTERNATIONAL·BROTHERHOOD  
OF·TEAMSTERS·CHAUFFEURS  
·STABLEMEN AND HELPERS·**



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PUT AWAY A FEW POTATOES



HIS year's crop of potatoes is one of the largest we have ever harvested, estimated to be over 400,000,000 bushels, or twenty bushels for every American family. Behind that there is also a bumper sweet potato crop in the South, where State officials have taken steps to store this vegetable in modern warehouses to preserve its quality.

So we can look ahead and see a plentiful supply of potatoes for the winter at reasonable prices—there will be no such famine as we passed through last winter. This is fortunate. We need potatoes to cut down the cost of living and help us save wheat and meat for our army and our allies.

The United States Food Administration is taking steps to get these potatoes to the people. During October and November retail grocers throughout the country will conduct a selling campaign on Irish potatoes, handling them at a very moderate profit. Farmers will back up the movement by sending their potatoes to market. Newspapers will urge the public to buy and store potatoes, and the crop will be distributed to the best advantage to all concerned from producer to consumer.

Every family with a cellar, or

other storage facilities, should put away from three to ten bushels, or more, of Irish potatoes while they are cheapest during the fall. Potato storage in the home is fairly simple. The tubers must be kept cool, dry and well ventilated. People often put a supply of potatoes in a closed cellar, thinking to protect them against cold, only to find later that dampness and warmth have caused decay. Heat probably

ruins more potatoes in home storage than cold. Potatoes should be put in barrels with a few holes in the side so that they can have a circulation of air, or piled in a bin that is not too tight, or heaped on a few boards laid along the floor. Circulation of air to keep them dry and cool can be secured by opening the cellar windows during the day and shutting them on cold nights.  
—U. S. Food Administrator.

### PROFIT AND WAR



PROFIT, in the sense that it is to be used here, is that profit that accrues to those who seek profit from the labor of others.

There are other kinds of profit such as the people of Russia may obtain in throwing off the yoke of tyranny and establishing a democracy. That will be a profit in which the greater numbers will participate, in the event of its accomplishment. But that profit will not come to the great Russian people even now without their contests with those who seek profit through special privilege or by the establishing of a special opportunity. All of the machinations of the few who will endeavor to perpetuate schemes by which they may live and accumulate wealth from the many will be thrust forward to thwart the end of true democracy that seems at this time within accomplishment of the Russian people. Such schemes, capitalistic in inspiration, are the only ones that will make difficult the general purpose of the Russian people in their struggle to perfect their liberty.

The democracy in the United States is not immune from the selfish inventiveness of the employment for profit schemes.

It is true that American democ-

racy in the frame of government accords to the people the opportunity of an ideal democracy. Whatever there is lacking is chargeable to the people and not to any lack of opportunity within the government.

It is being said, and truthfully, that there is grave danger of establishing a reign of imperialistic militarism in the United States equal to that which has characterized Germany, and even exceeding it. But such a condition, should it come, will be chargeable to the people, and those whose machinations may lead to it will have a substantial basis upon which to set up a claim that the people, themselves, elected such a condition. There is nothing more effective in establishing things than passive consent of the people affected. Things so established are the most difficult to uproot. That is the history of the people of the world.

Somewhere down the line this world war came of passive consent by those who, had they been required to pass upon the matter actively, would have made the war impossible. But the war came, not through active, but through passive consent of those involved and it has extended to the United States of America and has come to involve a nation of the most liberal structure.

Within this nation, to what ex-

tent will the machinations of the few avail by the passive consent of the many? War is on. Now, what the purpose of intrigue? Who are the few whose interests will lie against the intersts of the many? Those who hope to profit only through accumulation from the fruits of labor of those who toil. This is not a new element in the life of American democracy. It has been with us and thrived from the begining and every war in which the great American democracy has been involved has served as an impetus, a splendid opportunity, a special reaping time for those profit takers who wax strong from the toil of the many.

At the beginning of this war those who are seeking its advantage for profit are no less fortified than at the beginning of any previous war, and from past experience and advanced intelligence they approach this war far more formidable.

The great American trade union movement is the only institution that stands in the way of a rich harvest for mercenary "patriots." The trade union movement approaches this war with the well-oiled machinery of defense.

"During the Civil War our organizations went to pieces." We read those words in the history of the oldest American trade unions. The expression is practically paraphrased and thus used by every writer of the early history of every labor organization that was rekindled or resurrected after the Civil War.

The Spanish-American War was not lasting enough to seriously affect the organization of labor. It was not a serious interruption.

At the close of the German-American War will it be said that our great labor movement was unable to survive? It depends upon the movement and its watchfulness. The great destroying elements will be those that lower the

standard of employment. Non-unionism can contribute to the destruction of unionism only in proportion to its ascendancy in competition. The destroying elements are those which contribute to that ascendancy. The profit-seeking non-union employers who wish to change the standard are well aware of that.

The great defensive weapon of organized labor is the strike. The great offensive weapon of the unfair employer is the lockout. Lockouts and blacklists are conducted under cover. Strikes are on the surface and very much so. There is nothing in the defense and progress of organized labor that can be obscured from public view. The strike engages general interest and concern. The lockout and blacklist is known only to the thoughtful—the students of the times. They are known only by the trail of impoverishment of the toilers—a trail that is not pleasant to behold and from which the public, so much as it is possible, turns its head.

True, this war competition in the labor market will come in proportion with any abnormal substitution of woman and child labor in employment and there is not a little activity in contemplation of just that kind of exploitation at the present moment. In every industrial community club women are busy encouraging this class of competition under the guise of patriotism. The opportunity of these club women can be traced to their connection with the profit-paying industries they design to serve by the substitution of cheap labor in their efforts, in effect, to demoralize the standard of employment to the advantage of employing corporations. In the event that this program is carried out it will prove one of the most demoralizing influences with which the American labor movement will be beset. This project being, on the face of it,

championed by women aristocracy, whether well or illly conceived, has got to be met at its face value by the organized bread winners. To carry the plan to any considerable extent will result in tragically replacing the bread winner by his own wife or daughter.

There is no need to falsely attempt any disguise of the fact; ousting of men from employment by women is to change the whole social fabric of our democratic institutions. True, it will fatten a few, but equally true it will enslave the many and more sharply establish the class demarkation line.

It is true that in Europe the injection of women into industries has reached considerable proportions, seemingly of necessity, but the extent is undoubtedly greatly enlarged upon by the published reports in American capitalistic newspapers. We hear much of it as from Europe, but practically none as of Canada, where a greater proportion of enlistments has already taken place than it will be possible in any requirements within the United States. Canada is participating in the world war without degrading her womanhood. There is as little call for it in the United States.

The only way to maintain standards in the United States pending this war is for wages and conditions of employment to keep pace with the times. It is a period demanding the most vigilant watchfulness on the part of the trade union movement and its membership. Any incursions should be protested and it is up to labor to protect the sacredness and safety of American womanhood against those who would lower her standard and extend her deprivations for the spoils that come from greater profit.

There is no reason why the standard of employment already attained should not be maintained and progress continued.

It has been one of the tasks and purposes of organized labor to move the women and children out of the factories into homes and schools. That is true patriotism. Let not this war be an excuse for herding them back from the homes and schools into the factories and workshops.

Let business proceed industrially and progress be made industrially on the same basis as though this country were not involved in war. Then will go and be sustained at the front the highest ideal of patriotism. Then will the men at the front and those expected to go there know that their patriotism is not being sapped for profit.—Motorman and Conductor.

### UNFAIR EMPLOYERS REAPING WHIRLWIND

Scattered through the country are groups of embittered, irreconcilable workingmen because of the actions of those employers who have violated every right sacred to Americans, says the United Mine Workers' Journal.

"These workingmen are not affiliated with any legitimate labor union," continues this paper. "They do not seek working agreements with the employers. They recognize no country because they have no stake in the country; they do not respect the law because they feel that the law has never protected them. Yet, among these workers there are in proportion to their numbers more who are American-born, more of the earlier immigrants from England, Ireland, northern European countries, than can be found in any of the factories, the mines or mills represented by the gentlemen who met in Washington.

"The reason for this is obvious. Many of these, most of these, are the men who have been deported, blacklisted, driven to desperation, denied a home. There is the fruit

of the system these gentlemen would preserve in the hour of their country's need. Enemies of their country? Possibly, yes, but the greater enemies are those who have destroyed the faith of these men in their country's government.

"The results of their successful opposition in the past are not so beneficial to the country and to the working people of the country as to induce us to forego the usual functions of our unions—education, organization, collective bargaining.

"If we can bring about conditions now that would make the future safe for the workers from the horrors of wholesale deportations, such as we have experienced in the past, we should feel justified, having in mind only real interests of the country, in going forward with the work of organization even to the extent of demanding and insisting upon recognition of the unions, of direct negotiations with the unions on the part of those who in the past have been able to defeat our hopes and our efforts."

#### **"NO-STRIKE" SCHEME IS TRAP FOR UNIONS**

"Beware of the joker" is the Tacoma Daily News' warning to organized labor against the plan of 150 manufacturers at Washington, who have asked the council of national defense to call a meeting of trade unionists to discuss their "no-strike" plan.

The scheme includes no change in union and non-union shops—the manufacturers call them "open" and "closed" shops; there shall be no strikes or lockouts; no changed conditions, "nor shall any combination of workmen undertake during the like period (of the war) to close an open shop."

The Tacoma Daily News sustains organized labor in its suspicion of this scheme, and the editor says:

"While this paragraph is neatly phrased and would seem to apply with equal force to the employer who desired to change working conditions as well as to unions desirous of taking in non-union workers, it is fraught with much danger. It is the desire of the manufacturers, as set forth in their petition to the council, to stabilize the labor situation during the period of the war. By this is meant that the national council of defense shall formulate such legislation and rules as will make it illegal to do certain things—applying these rules with equal force to employers as well as employes, actual or prospective. Therein comes the rub. It will be noted, in the paragraph quoted, that the word 'undertake' is used in both clauses.

"There is little likelihood that employers will care to 'undertake' changes so long as they are getting work done. But how about the unions? The work of organizing men into unions is far from finished. Organizers constantly are 'undertaking' to bring in new members and to put them under union jurisdiction.

"Will union organizers come under the prohibitions sought to be established by the manufacturers? If such is the contemplated effect of the movement, the project had as well be abandoned at once. The right of men to organize for mutual benefit cannot be abridged."

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#### **FORCED ARBITRATION NO LABOR SOLUTION**

"The more we become acquainted with the conditions affecting trade unionists under compulsory arbitration in Australia and New Zealand, the more cause we have for being on the alert to prevent any such system being introduced in America, regardless of the form in which it may be advocated."

(Continued on Page 12.)

# EDITORIAL.

(By Daniel J. Tobin.)

**A** GREAT many of our local unions have written the General Office recently asking whether or not it would be lawful or legal for their union to carry in good standing men who have been called to the colors and in case of death or injury pay to the individual or his family the benefits usually paid by the local in such cases.

First, we want it understood that the General President and Editor of the Journal has the highest regard for the patriotism which prompted the desire to put into force the above condition. There is nothing higher, or holier, or more noble than to take care of the sick or the wounded, or to take care of the families of the men who offer up their lives in defense of the nation, but above and beyond all the general organization is governed by a Constitution, and that Constitution plainly defines the duty of the officers; that Constitution clearly states what the law is on this and other matters. Every officer of the International Union is obligated to carry out that Constitution. The General President is bound by his obligation to see that the laws of the organization are administered in accordance with the Constitution, and Section 4 of the Constitution provides that when a person ceases to be employed at our craft, unless he is working for the union and drawing salary from the union, he must take a withdrawal card, so when a man becomes a soldier of the government he ceases working at the craft and must take an honorable withdrawal card. That card proves to the world that he left the organization in good standing, without a blemish against him, and he will be entitled to readmission to membership without the payment of any initiation fee when he returns from the front and presents that withdrawal card. The Constitution is clear on this point and there is not any chance to misunderstand its meaning. It is true that when the Constitution was drafted we had no thought of war and that our only thought was to protect our membership and our organization. The delegates who year after year attend the convention inserted this section in the Constitution to provide against holding in membership men who had changed their employment; men who were members but who had perhaps become large employers; men who had become saloonkeepers, or professional men; all men who in any way had gone from the spirit and nature of our work. This clause was inserted so that this class of men could be kept out of our organization by our laws and not allowed to dictate its policies, and for that reason the withdrawal card and Section 4, or that part of the section dealing with this particular subject was inserted in our Constitution. Any man who is a real trade unionist or a good member should not desire to violate any section of the Constitution. The law is plain and clear, and as the soldier with love for his country complies with the orders of his officers, as the soldier respects discipline and authority, so also should our membership comply with our Constitution, agree to its discipline and thereby prove themselves real trade unionists. If there is anything wrong in the Constitution, and we might say in passing that we believe it is just and fair, and that only the welfare of our membership was considered when the Constitution was drafted, yet,

if there are any mistakes, the proper time to remedy such mistakes and make changes is when the convention meets again for the purpose of considering a new Constitution. But while the present one is in existence it should remain intact, as the framers of this Constitution originally intended it to remain. We, therefore, trust that those in the different sections of the country where our local unions are in existence who read this editorial will understand that men who are called under the draft, cease working at our craft, they must, in accordance with our laws, take out a withdrawal card; that the local union has no right to continue in membership men who are not working at the craft. We understand that other organizations are perhaps doing differently, but we have nothing to do with other organizations. We are only in charge of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers. Our Constitution governs our organization and the actions of other organizations have no material effect on our decisions or on our actions. We know of organizations that hold in membership large employers. That, of course, is their business, not ours; so if you are confronted with the argument that other unions are taking care of their members who are called to the front, you want to bear in mind that the action of that organization cannot possibly be our action. Remember that organization may have special provision in its Constitution to that effect. Remember that other organizations are perhaps receiving larger dues or per capita or assessments from the membership at home and that in our Constitution there is no provision for the levying of assessments or anything of that kind by the International Union. In other words, we are distinctly different and serious consideration, as stated above, should not be given to the action of any other International organization or local union. Rest assured that the International officers realize at this time the feeling that exists and the conditions that surround us. We are pretty well posted on what is going on and we know the disturbed condition of the nation, and we know the men who are called to the front will perhaps be not only the saviors of this nation of ours, but also the saviors and protectors of civilization throughout the world. We realize that the greatest sacrifice that men can make is to offer up their lives so that freedom and justice may continue to live. We understand all these things; at the same time our membership should understand also that the unions affiliated with the International, when they obtained their charters from the International office, they pledged themselves to abide by its Constitution and laws; that all members who take our obligation at the time of initiation pledge themselves to abide by our Constitution and law and that our principal duty as members of the International Union is to abide by that obligation and to adhere closely to every section of the Constitution. As the International Union is bound, and obligated, and pledged to abide by the decisions and rules and laws of the American Federation of Labor, so also are all local unions bound to live up to the Constitution of the International Brotherhood. If the Constitution is carried out to the letter nothing but good can prevail. The highest credit is due to the membership of a local union whose honesty of purpose has prompted them to take care of the members who have gone to the front, but under our Constitution, let me say again, a man when he ceases to work at our craft cannot be kept on the books of the union and must be given a withdrawal card.

SOMETIMES the more you say about your enemies the more prominent you make the enemy. It would often be well if we kept back some of the things we say against those who are the enemies of Labor. The more we spout about them and their crooked tactics the more we advertise them. Recently a great rumpus was made about a body of men who call themselves peace advocates. This body is composed of Socialists, college professors, I. W. W.'s, imbeciles and fanatics of every kind. It is surprising the prominence they were given. They were refused the right to hold a meeting in Chicago and other places. Perhaps it was well to refuse them. We do not know what they would have to say, and we do not care, but for big men in the labor movement, sensible men, to think they would accomplish anything by declaring, if they did declare in their peace propaganda, that they represented the toilers, for big men to become exercised over this is something almost impossible to understand. This body does not amount to anything and they could do no harm, any more than the ranting employers' detectives amounted to when they charged all Labor with being criminals and murderers as a result of the McNamara confessions. Creatures of this kind will always be with us and the best way to treat them is to ignore them. Holding a convention to refute what they say is, in the judgment of the Editor, perfectly ridiculous and uncalled for.

Why, the other day, I had a letter from one of our good local unions enclosing an extract from a musical journal, which extract berated the appearance of the piano and furniture driver when delivering pianos. It went on to say that the employers made a mistake in not having those piano drivers dressed in white collars and silk shirts and white kid gloves when entering the home of the elect to deliver a \$350.00 player piano to be paid for at the rate of one dollar a month. The editor of this musical organ believes the piano sales houses could improve or increase their business by having the drivers a little more refined in appearance. Just imagine this kind of an editorial in a publication that is looking for popularity and business. They never stop to think that a man in order to handle a piano and put it up perhaps three flights of stairs that what he needs is brawn, muscle and strength instead of kid gloves on his hands. One of our members sent this article to me and asked me if they should answer it. I said emphatically no, because no one who amounts to anything or who can injure you ever heard of this musical publication, and if you pay any attention to the rotten trash published in that paper you will be giving them the prominence they desire. A few years ago I had occasion to ask a very pointed question on the floor of the convention of the American Federation of Labor as to whether or not a certain so-called labor organization or council in the city of New York, which calls itself after a certain sect, had the approval of the Executive Council for its charter at the time the charter was issued, and the chairman answered that it had not. That was all that was said. The next morning there was placed on the desk of every delegate that attended the convention a circular, placed there by the representative of this sect, this circular berating me and telling the delegates things that I ought to have done in my own organization and the things they had done for me, which I could not do under any circumstances. Of course, it "peeved" me somewhat because the circular contained a pack of lies, but in thinking the matter over I decided that the writer of this circular (who could write another language better

than he could English) was looking for some advertising and that if I took any notice of the circular I would be giving him the glory he was looking for. I could perhaps have had him excluded from the convention, but I did not do that. In fact, I took no notice whatever of it and I never heard any more from it and he failed in his object, which was to get a lot of notoriety. If this article is not too tiresome, we want to say that for labor men to take notice or endeavor to refute certain statements attributed to Labor by these so-called peace advocates is only adding fuel to the fire and is somewhat unnecessary. Why, a man is utterly insane when he goes out and makes the statement that the laboring men of the country are crying for peace under any condition, and no one will take any notice of this man. If he violates the law, let the law take care of him; but we, the men of labor, at least have plenty to do in trying to negotiate wage scales, in trying to do something towards reducing the high cost of living, in watching the crooked legislators of the country, and in taking care of the thousand and one other things that surround us, instead of taking notice of the fanatics who will die of dry-rot if they are left to themselves. We might say much more on this subject, but we believe that enough has been said in this article to let our readers understand that Labor is loyal, is almost unanimously behind the government in the struggle in which our country is now engaged, because victory means more to Labor than to any other class, and the ranting and prating of a few creatures who are perhaps playing a double game does not represent the opinion of the workingmen of the nation.

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**D**ID you notice our last quarterly report? Has your secretary read it at the meeting of your local for the benefit of the membership?

If you have not heard it read or have not seen the report, let me remind you of the fact that this audit of the books shows a balance in the banks to our credit of \$313,367.63. The writer does not mention this for the purpose of obtaining any credit for anyone in particular. Our purpose in making this statement is to let our membership know the condition of their International organization so they may have more confidence, if possible, in the General Executive Board and in the International Union. Not any one or two men are responsible for the building up of our treasury. It has been done by all of our members throughout the country and especially by the officers of our local unions who are so anxious to comply with our laws each month in the year. It has been done by our organizers who are in the field, who are striving to build up our membership and keep down the expenses of the International by bringing about settlements without having recourse to strikes. It has been done by the members of the General Executive Board, who have considered carefully the serious questions surrounding the International and the many important problems confronting it, which, if not carefully handled, might necessitate the expenditure of thousands of dollars. It has been done by the business agents of the locals in the various districts of the country who have had brains enough to settle disputes, appease the anger of their membership, and to reason out matters with their employers, thereby preventing serious difficulty from arising. We have all helped. It has been our duty to help. We intend to go on helping one another, as only by mutual understanding, honest thinking and each striving to do his share shall we

be successful. I believe I am not misstating facts in the case when I say that at the present time we have more harmony and more good feeling not only among our membership and our officers, but between our organization and the employing world, than ever existed before, and more, I believe, than exists in any other International Union of proportionate size or numerical strength. It is true that little things arise here and there where perhaps it is hard to make the local members understand the Constitution, but those small things amount to nothing compared with the big things that have been handled and straightened out during the year. Your International Union has indeed accomplished wonders for its members. There are instances throughout the country where men have doubled their wages in a few years. It is encouraging to notice that all symptoms of dishonesty are disappearing throughout our organizations. There is no room for the dishonest man in our organization. Fair dealing, square dealing, with ourselves and our employers is bringing us daily higher and higher in the estimation of the public and raising us morally, numerically and financially. We will have the highest representation in this year's convention of the American Federation of Labor that we have ever had, being entitled to about 650 votes. In 1907 we had 366 votes. You can see for yourselves what gains we have made. At that time we did not have any money in our treasury—today we have \$313,367.63. At the time of our last convention two years ago our balance was \$211,000.00. In two years, as you will notice, we have gained \$102,000.00, making a gain of \$50,000.00 a year. I think this is something the general membership should know, and it ought to give you encouragement to go out and work harder in the future. We will need it all. One mistake that might be made would perhaps involve us in a conflict which might demand the expenditure of all of this money, as for instance the lamentable and disastrous strike in Chicago in 1905. We want you to know that your money is being handled honestly, because I believe you will realize with us that with this 15 cents per capita tax and with expenses increasing in our organization, as they have in all other organizations, that the strictest economy and the highest business qualifications had to be applied in the running of this organization in order to save up \$313,000.00 in a few years. We, your officers, pledge to you, our membership, to continue doing this work in the future as we have done in the past, striving to make the organization better each day. We do this because we believe it is our duty to do it. All we want in return is the confidence of our membership; the appreciation of the rank and file; the encouragement of our several local unions throughout the country; the good will, which costs nothing, of every member of the International Union; because, understand, that in striving to build up the organization so that we may obtain better wages and better working conditions, that if we have your approval, your confidence and your encouragement, it makes the work much easier and lighter for us to perform. We who are employed by the International Union desire to extend to the great rank and file of our membership, and to the officers of our local unions, our sincere appreciation for the kindness and assistance they have given us for the past two years, since the adjournment of our last convention.

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It seems to us that there is no need of so-called labor representatives, or others, calling meetings today, tomorrow and the day after

in New York, Chicago and other places and continually declaring Labor's loyalty to the government during the war. This declaring and repeating, and declaring and repeating, and promising, and stating, and pledging, and again declaring, seems to us to be entirely unnecessary, but the representatives have to have these meetings in order to get themselves before the public. Many of them are not representatives at all. Now it seems to us that the workers are getting sick of this brass band play. The laborers of our country, the workers of our nation, or at least the trade unionists, are Americans. This war is their war. It is a war for humanity's sake. Labor has its shoulders to the wheel and is helping to win the war by putting forth every ounce of energy within it. Labor is back of the government because Labor believes the government to be right and Labor believes the war is just. We are doing our best in every city and State in the nation, and those few tin-horn praters that are calling those so-called meetings and declaring for Labor are making many of us sick. So, for goodness sake let us have no more of it. We, as stated above, are Americans, first, last and all the time, and why we should be called upon to pledge ourselves every day in the week is something we cannot understand. But we are not called upon by the government to do this because the government knows very well where Labor stands, but those tin-horn artists who have nothing else to do except to try to get a little notoriety for themselves; those who glory in newspaper publicity are disgusting us with their so-called large representative Labor meetings, pledging us over and over again to our government. We object to this: First, because they do not represent us either as workers, trade unionists, or in any other capacity; and, second, because we feel that it is unnecessary for some one to be promising the government every day in the week that we are loyal to our own country. We consider it an insult because we are, as we have always been, loyal and desire justice and freedom, and we believe that this war is being waged in the interest of freedom and justice.

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**W**E notice that a great many of the former prominent leaders in the Socialist party recently associated themselves with the newborn organization which was established lately in Minneapolis. John Spargo, among the many, was elected to a vice-presidency; also Charles Francis Russell, another man who has been prominent in the Socialist party for a number of years, and several others too numerous to mention. We would indeed be pleased if we could convince ourselves of their absolute sincerity in now espousing the cause of Labor under the guise of this so-called American Alliance for Labor and Democracy. But we have known so many men in our time who have always been on the lookout for themselves; in other words, those commonly known as opportunists, we think perhaps there was some of this element in attendance at the Minneapolis convention, or meeting. There may be something in the thought that those men who were formerly leaders in the Socialist party saw the Socialist party going to pieces, as could be seen from the last election of our country; that they saw the handwriting on the wall, and that they grasped the opportunity of getting out while getting out was good and to establish themselves more firmly, if possible, on the working people; or, in other words, endeavored to establish a better feeling for themselves among the workers. They are now espousing the cause of union labor and undoubtedly will endeavor

to become leaders in the cause of trade unionism, although many of these men were never known as workers. They are educated men, some of them prominent lawyers, others very able lecturers and writers, such as Morris Hilquith, John Spargo, Charles Francis Russell, and several others, including the Socialist candidate for President of the United States in the last general election. I suppose the next thing we will see will be Eugene Debs establishing his office in the American Federation of Labor building in Washington, telling us of the splendid assistance he has always given Sam Gompers and other International officers. Perhaps this change has come about as a result of the education of the masses in late years, or perhaps it has taken place because of the disastrous conflict now going on in Europe. Let us hope it has, but the question confronts us, Are they sincere? We hope they are and that they will prove their sincerity, but we are going to be careful of those so-called educationists, whether former members of the Socialist party or the Republican party. The workers want workers to lead them. The toilers desire men of their own kind, men who have gone through the mill, to fight their battles for them; men who have worked at the bench, in the mine, in the shop, in the factory and in the field; men who have suffered the pangs of hunger, endured the bitter blasts of winter; men who have hungered through the scorching sun of many summers for freedom. Those are the men to whom the workers will look for their leaders and their advisers, and not to the so-called uplifters and educationists who in nearly every instance have been opportunists, who shift their color with the wind and pitch their tent wherever they believe it to be for their own best interests.

### **FORCED ARBITRATION NO LABOR SOLUTION**

(Continued from Page 5.)

says Editor Frey in the International Molders' Journal.

"Regardless of what theories may have been advanced concerning governmental regulation of the terms of employment, the one fact that stands out prominently is that such legislation, in practice, works to the employers' advantage and takes from labor the necessary liberty which it must have to adequately protect itself.

"The strongest weapon which the workers have developed to assist them in dealing with the terms of employment is the power to strike. When this power can be taken from labor, the employers are placed in a position where the advantages lay almost entirely in their hands.

"The governmental report for the month of July, 1916, prepared by

the department of labor and industry for New South Wales, indicates that the law has not prevented strikes, but that it has enabled the governmental machinery, operating through the courts, to punish strikers if this is deemed advisable.

"During July of that year some 22,539 wage earners in New South Wales ceased work, because of industrial disputes, 53,562 days all told being lost from this cause.

"There are two principle methods advocated for the purpose of working out the wage earners' industrial salvation, so far as the terms of employment are concerned. One, the legislative, and the other, the trade union. So far, the history of the legislative method contains no evidence that it is to be depended upon to safeguard labor's essential rights. Instead its tendency is to limit labor's freedom of action."

# CORRESPONDENCE



## CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Up to this time I have heard nothing further relative to the bus drivers of this city. I received your letter and have the matter in mind. If anything of importance is done, I will let you know.

Your article in the journal pertaining to the increase of per capita tax was taken up at our meeting in Evanston, and after an explanation of the article to the members, the vote was unanimous to allow the International Executive Board the power to increase the tax—if in their opinion it becomes necessary. We also had it up for discussion at our meeting in Chicago, which was one of the largest meetings that we have had for a long time. The vote was unanimous, with the exception of possibly five votes, to increase the tax along the lines dealt with in the article in the journal. I have talked with a number of officers in the city and find that they feel as we do—with the increased cost of paper—the expense of running the journal, that it would become necessary to increase the tax. The idea of putting on more organizers appeals very strongly to most of them. Personally, I feel that if we could add five or six organizers it would be a splendid thing, even if it becomes necessary to increase the tax more than suggested in your article. I feel that it is utterly impossible to cover the field with the number of organizers we have at the present time. I feel sure there will be very little objection from this city or vicinity if it becomes necessary to raise the tax to

defray the expenses of additional organizers. I do not know if any of the other organizations have taken definite action up to this time in regard to the article. Local 734 had the matter before its last meeting, but it was laid over until the next meeting.

If you so desire you may use the name of our organization among those in favor of the increase. Any assistance that we can give you in the matter we stand ready to give.

The situation with the Blue Valley and Fay's drivers seems to be getting along all right. If there is a settlement reached I will let you know. Fraternally yours,

W. A. NEER, Secy.

## CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Just a few lines from Local No. 710, Packing House Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Union. Local No. 710 held a picnic on August 26, 1917, at Gardner's Park, One Hundred and Twenty-third street and Michigan avenue. It was a very fine day, we had a good crowd, and everyone had a nice time; they all danced to their heart's content from 2 p. m. until 9:30 p. m. We had John J. Wagoner & Son's band, which furnished the best of music. It was a cold water picnic and everyone was good and sober. That is the only kind of a picnic to hold. The members' wives brought large baskets of eatables and the little ones had a glorious time under the trees and in the grass. We sold 662 tickets at the gate. All children under twelve years of age were allowed in free and I hope the

families of the members who attended the picnic had a good time.

Local No. 710 is going along very nicely and we are saving up some money, which we may need in the near future, and when we do need it we will have it to use, and no one can tell how soon that will be with the present conditions existing in our country, as things seem to be unsettled and everything points to trouble. Nevertheless Local Union No. 710 has done fairly well in the last year.

In reference to wage increases Local No. 710, or the members thereof, have received  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cents increase per hour since October 2, 1916. On October 2 they received  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents and on April 2 another  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents and on September 3 another  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents increase. The branch house men did not come under the first increase in October, 1916, which in my estimation was not right. I made a protest, but of no avail. The packers told me that it was voluntary and if they saw fit to pay one more than the scale called for, that was up to them and the money was theirs and they could do with it as they saw fit, which statement, of course, I could not refute, but nevertheless I told them it was neither just or right to raise one class and not all, but the last two increases has included the branch house men, and today (September 11, 1917) the cart driver is getting 29 cents per hour, the single horse driver  $31\frac{1}{2}$  cents, two-horse drivers 34 cents, three-horse drivers  $36\frac{1}{2}$  cents, four-horse drivers  $39\frac{1}{2}$  cents and six-horse drivers  $42\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour; autos three tons and over, 40 cents per hour; over one and under three tons,  $35\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour, and one ton and under,  $32\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour. Electric trucks, two tons and under,  $33\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour; over two and under three tons,  $36\frac{1}{2}$  cents per hour; four tons and over, 40 cents per hour; regular

helper, 34 cents per hour; branch house men, single-horse drivers, \$20.16 per week, sixty-three hours per week and all over sixty-three hours paid for as overtime; two-horse drivers, \$22.16; three tons and over, \$24.01; over one and under three tons, \$20.86; one ton and under, \$18.91 for sixty-three hours and all time over sixty-three hours as overtime. We also have fairly good conditions. Since the high fence was placed around the stockyards to keep the Germans out no one can start work earlier than 5:30 a. m. at the stables and 6 a. m. out with the rigs. The autos start at 6 a. m. most of the time. This is quite an improvement since I drove team last, when I used to get home at 10:30 p. m. and be at the barn or stable again at 1 o'clock and show up on Sunday morning to care for our horse or horses and get nothing for it. If any of the members work on Sundays or holidays now they receive time and one-half and they cannot call you out for less than five hours' pay, no matter if you work but one hour.

Wishing all of the teamsters throughout the country success and good luck, I am,

Fraternally yours,  
GEORGE F. GOLDEN,  
Secretary L. U. No. 710.

#### CHICKASHA, OKLA.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—You will find enclosed list of membership with addresses as near as I can get them at present. We are getting along very nicely, with most all of our members at work and prospects good for the fall. The feeling that arose out of the strike last May seems to be forgotten. Our greatest drawback in this part of the country is the unorganized condition of our craft throughout the State. We receive a higher wage here than any city in Oklahoma

and our employers never fail to tell us and the public as well every time we ask for an increase in wages. Your article in the journal as to an increase in per capita tax appeals to me very strongly, as I feel we need more organizing work in many places, and it takes money to do this work, but to organize a local union and then leave it to work out its own destiny without any assistance from anyone and without experience along that line usually means no organization in a short time. My observation has been that more local unions fail from trying to accomplish too much when first organized than from any other cause. If our per capita tax was sufficient to provide funds to put some experienced organizers in this State, someone who has had experience in organizing those strong locals in the eastern cities and could visit them occasionally until they got in good working condition, it would not be long until it would repay the International many times over, and what is true of this State I believe is true in several other States. I realize, however, that with only sufficient funds for organizing purposes to employ a limited number of organizers, it is far better to work them in the cities with large populations, because a local union of several hundred can be organized in practically the same time as one with one hundred or less.

With best wishes for yourself and the labor movement in general, I remain,

Fraternally yours,  
JOE BELCHER,  
Sec.-Treas. Local No. 241.

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**SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.**

Mr. Thos. L. Hughes, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Pursuant to instructions from this union, it is necessary that I call your atten-

tion to the fact that this union would like you to insert the names of the two ex-members who are scabbing on us at the present time in our official Magazine. The following two names are the ones we want you to print: John Kerwin, 205 Seventh avenue, and R. Barrett, 226 Seventh avenue.

Hoping to see these two names in our Magazine at your earliest opportunity, I am,

Fraternally yours,  
JAMES F. DUNLEAVY,  
Secretary.

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**GALVESTON, TEXAS**

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Just a few lines to let the International know that Galveston is still on the map and Local 239 is on and in Galveston and is doing its share to keep the treasure isle of America in the limelight, despite the obstacles that the city has to meet and overcome; also that Galveston is doing her share to end the war-liberty loan 67 per cent. oversubscribed and Red Cross oversubscribed by an equal amount. Have also sent more men to the army and navy than cities that have three times the population, and to cap the climax, as the saying is, our illustrious brother, J. W. Young, started the ball rolling and, with the aid of a few patriotic citizens, including Hon. Mayor Kempner of the city government, succeeded in organizing a company of coast artillery, which was also oversubscribed, so that Galveston could live up to her traditions as being one of the many cities in Texas that could show Uncle Sam that she was not asleep when necessity arose to the occasion; also, that two more of the brothers enlisted in Captain J. W. Young's company, to-wit: Patrick Garguevich and E. N. Clarac. I deeply regret the fact that I am not physically able to join the army or else I would also

be in Brother-Captain J. W. Young's company; but if it comes to a show-down I'll go and waive all physical disabilities. Nevertheless my name has been drawn in the draft list along with a dozen more of our good men who are willing to go at the drop of the hat.

Well, Brother Tobin, I believe I have said enough for a while, hoping this letter will be published in the next issue of our Magazine and will be given serious thought by all those who read it, as you read it between the lines. I like the articles in the Magazine signed by Amos Pinchot and hope to hear more about that eminent gentleman in the near future through the columns of our Magazine. I remain,

Fraternally yours,  
EDWARD BORDEAUX,  
Rec. Sec. Local No. 239.

#### LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—At our last regular meeting a motion was made and carried that Local 251 go down on record as being in favor of the per capita tax being raised to 20 cents per member per month to help defray the expenses of our monthly journal and hoping that the other locals throughout the country will do the same. We have been successful in signing agreements with the Union Ice Company and the San Pedro Ice Company at San Pedro, Cal., giving the men an increase in wages and no Sunday work. The employers of those two companies can see what a benefit it is to work in co-operation with their help.

With best wishes from all of the members of Local 251, I remain,

Yours fraternally,  
DAVE NORBIE, Secy.

#### DETROIT, MICH.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Will you

please insert the following in our journal: Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Grant Kelly, teamster and a member of Detroit local, will confer a favor by letting his mother know, as she is very anxious to hear from him. He on different occasions worked for the Cartage companies in Detroit. He is about 30 years of age, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches tall and fair complexioned.

MRS. HENLEY JAMES,  
201 Baker St., Detroit, Mich.

#### "AMERICA FOR ME!"

Well, if the stars and stripes don't suit you with its freedom, you can go Across the sea to Germany or down to Mexico.  
If you don't like America, there's where you ought to be.  
I'll stay beneath the stars and stripes—  
"America for me!"

Say, if the stars and stripes don't suit you and you talk of German's right,  
Your place is in their trenches, for they need you there to fight.  
My fathers fought for Uncle Sam and gave us liberty.  
I love the blessed stars and stripes—  
"America for me!"

Now, if the stars and stripes don't suit you, why, there's no one holding you,  
The privilege of sweet freedom is—"you know what you can do."  
If you're for despot government, then sail across the sea.  
I'll stay in God's free chosen land—  
"America for me!"

Oh, if the stars and stripes don't suit you, there's lots of room outside,  
They need you now in Austria, their trenches open wide.  
But save your wives and babies from the submarines at sea,  
Just leave them home with Uncle Sam—  
"America for me!"

But, if the stars and stripes don't suit you, then hide with shame at night.  
Our stars are in the heavens and our stripes the morning light!  
We're victors in our warfare, for our cause is liberty.  
Sing, every true American, "America for me!"

Prospect, Ohio. —Fred Keller Dix.

To the Officers and Members of Local Unions—Greeting:

Through the columns of the Official Magazine I wish to call to the attention of the local officers and members Section 118 of the Constitution of the International Union.

At the San Francisco convention this section was added to the Constitution of the International Union and for the past two years I have watched with great care as to whether it had the desired effect to make the secretary-treasurers observe the law more closely, the trustees audit the books more promptly and the enforcement of every secretary-treasurer being bonded.

The law has been in effect since December 1, 1915, and I find that it has brought about some good results, but I still find the neglectful trustees and the neglectful secretary-treasurers, also the neglectful members who fail to make their officers comply with the Constitution of the International Union.

As I have several local unions whose officers attempt to run business as they believe it should be done (according to their way of thinking), I take this means through the columns of our Magazine to notify the officers and members of all our local unions that I am going to enforce Section 118 of the Constitution of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America.

Section 118 of the Constitution means exactly what it says and in the future the local secretary-treasurer who does not comply with it because it is not agreeable to himself personally, and the local union does not enforce it, I am going to refer these cases to the General Executive Board.

In the district that I was in during the months of July and August I found some of the secretaries doing as they wished, and when I called to their attention Section 118 of the Constitution, in some instances they became indignant and displeased, but in the majority of the instances all the secretaries were willing to learn and live up to the law.

I regret very much to say that after twelve years as Traveling Auditor of this International Union I have practically got to start over on some local unions, who still persist in violating the law. But every secretary is going to live up to the Constitution of the International Union while I am Traveling Auditor for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America.

G. W. BRIGGS, Traveling Auditor.

*Official Magazine*  
*of the*  
International Brotherhood  
of Teamsters, Chauffeurs  
Stablemen *and* Helpers  
*of America*

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*of*  
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**THOMAS L. HUGHES, Secretary**

222 East Michigan Street

Indianapolis, Indiana